

tical of its occurrence in Rhode Island. Mr. L. L. Dame in his excellent little hand book² says of it "Rhode Island — not reported," meaning that he had seen no specimen from the state. Sometime during last winter or early in the spring of the present year (1903) Mr. H. W. Preston called the writer's attention to this statement of Mr. Dame's, and suggested that we make special effort to get some herbarium specimens as both of us recollected having seen a group of the trees within a year in Scituate (Rhode Island), while riding on one of the Danielson electric cars.

About this time Mr. G. W. Burlingame sent to the Brown University Herbarium, for identification, a specimen of the Black Spruce which was collected, as I learned later, at the station just mentioned. Mr. Preston has since then visited this place and photographed the trees.

Early in May the writer spent a day about Wakefield Pond, Burrillville, in company with Rev. R. F. Cheney of Pascoag. At the time of our visit the water appeared to be higher than usual — though it may not have been — and what looked at a short distance like several ordinary islands proved, upon closer inspection, to be partially of wholly submerged islands — if such an expression be allowed — often with only the bushes and small trees projecting above the water.

These trees were nearly all Black Spruce and we counted more than a hundred on three or four of these "islands." Many of the spruces were in fruit while, in some cases, scarcely a meter in height. Perhaps the tallest one we saw was growing on the mainland — it was estimated to be 5 or 6 meters high. It is probable that the Black Spruce occurs at quite a number of stations in northern Rhode Island as it has been reported from at least six different towns, although the writer has personally seen it in but two of them, as stated.— J. FRANKLIN COLLINS, Providence, Rhode Island.

PANICUM COMMONSIANUM IN CONNECTICUT.— In June, 1902, and again a year later I collected, in a "sand-blow" in South Windsor, Connecticut, a plant which proves to be *Panicum Commonsianum*, Ashe. There were a few scattered clumps of it, growing in pure sand, some with *Carex siccata* and other plants of dry ground, some in places where nothing else had the courage even to try to exist. Mr. Fernald

² Dame and Brooks: Handbook of the Trees of New England (1902), p. 12.

informs me that this species of *Panicum*, originally described from the pine-barrens of New Jersey, has not before been reported from New England. I have never seen the New Jersey barrens, but I imagine the region in which I found my *Panicum* is not unlike them. It is a tract of low sand hills and plains, covered for the most part with rather sparse and scraggy woods, but here and there bare of all vegetation. It was on the edge of such a "sand-blow" that the *Panicum* grew. *P. xanthophysum* is another denizen of the same region, which can be found by a sufficiently patient seeker. It took me an hour and a half last summer to find two small plants—but it is there.—C. A. WEATHERBY, East Hartford, Connecticut.

SOME INTERESTING MOSSES FROM A SOUTHERN VERMONT PEAT-BOG.—A peat-bog of Pownal, Vermont, which furnishes a station for several flowering plants of northern range, is also the abode of several mosses considered uncommon in New England. Especially worthy of mention are the following: *Hypnum cuspidatum*, L., *Hypnum vernicosum*, Lindb., *Polytrichum strictum*, Banks., *Camptothecium nitens*, Sch., *Meesia tristicha*, Br. & Sch. and *Dicranum Bonjeani*, DeNot. All are species of more or less northern tendencies. All except the last are included in the Vermont list, but with not more than one or two stations, generally much farther north. The *Polytrichum* is a species associated in New England rather with alpine mountain summits than with lowland peat-bogs. The *Dicranum* Dr. True characterizes as representing the typical form of the species, a form which he considers rare. The species has not been included in the Vermont list. The mosses of this peat-bog, which is an especially wet and spongy one, if the matter is one admitting of comparison, are by no means profuse in the matter of spore-production. The only one of the above to fruit even comparatively freely is the *Dicranum*. *Meesia* is sufficiently conspicuous with its distinctly three-ranked leaves, and I was doubly delighted to find the past summer a small tuft bearing numerous sporophytes, very striking indeed with long seta and pendulous capsule upon a long, erect apophysis. In the summer of 1902 a small tuft of *Camptothecium* also produced fruit, an uncommon occurrence for the species. The other species mentioned were sterile. Of more common sorts, I noted *Aulacomnium palustre* sparingly fruited in 1901, though it